

REMARKS

Claims 19-33 are currently pending in the application. Claims 34-51 have been withdrawn without prejudice as being drawn to a nonelected invention, which can be prosecuted at a later date.

While Applicants do not acquiesce in the propriety of the outstanding rejections, the amendments and cancellations of claims herein are made to expedite prosecution of this application.

Claims 20, 22, 24, 27, and 31 have been amended herein to depend from currently allowed claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by these amendments. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are now allowable.

Claims 19, 23, 28, 29, and 33-51 have been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Therefore, after entry of this amendment, claims 20-22, 24-27 and 30-32 will be pending in the application.

Accordingly, as all claims currently pending as amended are either allowed or dependent from an allowed claim, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable.

Applicants also respectfully request that the Examiner initial and return the PTO Form 1449 submitted with the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed September 7, 2004.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections contained in the Office Action mailed on May 5, 2004 and in the Advisory Action mailed on October 19, 2004, have been overcome, and that the claims are in condition for allowance.

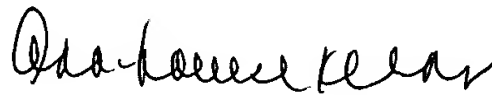
Applicants enclose herewith a Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, until November 5, 2004, based on the Examiner's Office Action mailed on May 5, 2004. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0219 the \$870.00 fee (\$980.00 minus the \$110.00 already paid) for this purpose.

Applicants also enclose herewith a Notice of Appeal. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0219 the \$340.00 fee for this purpose.

No other fees are believed to be due in connection with this response. However, please charge any underpayments or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

If the Examiner believes that any further discussion of this communication would be helpful, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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November 5, 2004
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